

Caribbean Coot (*Fulica caribaea*)

Conservation Concern Category:
Highest Concern

Population Trend (PT)

Declining (Delany and Scott 2002: Birdlife International 2000)

“formerly regarded as locally uncommon to rare over much of its range, but apparently locally common on Hispaniola...in Puerto Rico it was formerly abundant but has diminished greatly...” (Taylor 1998)

PT FACTOR SCORE=5

Population Size (PS)

Unknown (Delany and Scott 2002)

“in Puerto Rico it is decidedly uncommon...” (Taylor 1998)

PS FACTOR SCORE=?

Threats to Breeding Populations (TB)

“diminished as a result of over hunting and habitat destruction...” (Taylor 1998)

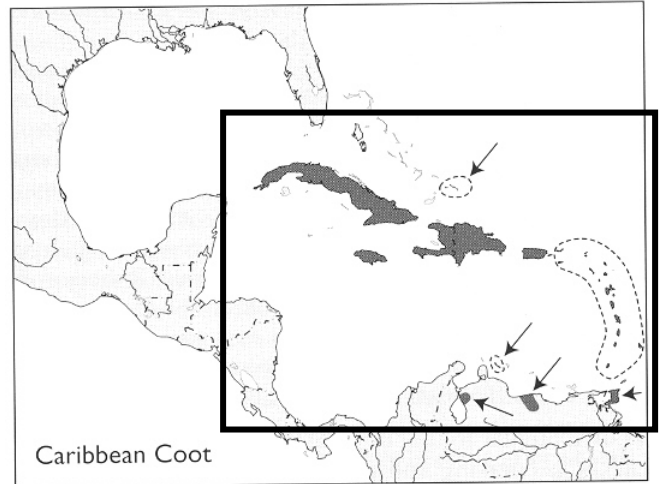
“where the species may become locally common, it is hunted to exclusion, at least temporarily. It is slow moving and non-cryptic which does not serve it well. Its distribution is coincident with human populations that hunt year-round and do not limit their take for conservation purposes. Waterfowl in general are taken for subsistence, not sport. Secondly, its habitat represents low-lying coastal areas which are a prime target for dredge and/or fill. Thirdly, and perhaps less obvious, is hybridization with *F. Americana*...” (R. Norton, pers.comm.)

TB FACTOR SCORE=5

Threats to Non-breeding Populations (TN)

TN FACTOR SCORE=5

Global Range (Taylor 1998; inset=plan area range)



Breeding Distribution (BD)

Mostly N Caribbean to Venezuela (Delany and Scott 2002)

2,900 km² (plan area distribution; estimated from range maps)

BD FACTOR SCORE=5

Non-breeding Distribution (ND)

Mostly N Caribbean to Venezuela (Delany and Scott 2002)

2,900 km² (estimated from range maps)

ND FACTOR SCORE=5

Literature Cited:

- Delany, S. and S. Scott. 2002. *Waterbird Population Estimates – Third Edition. Wetlands International Global Series No. 12*, Wageningen, The Netherlands.
- Taylor, B. 1998. Caribbean Coot. In *Rails: A guide to the Rails, Crakes, Gallinules and Coots of the world*. Yale University Press. Pp: 543-544.